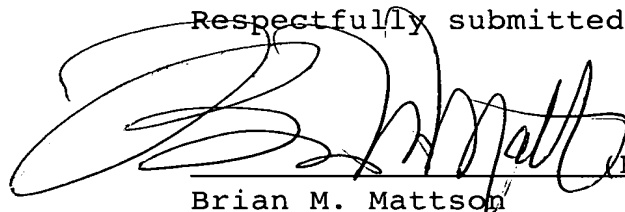


facie obviousness has not been established by the Patent Office as required under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Claims 2-8 depend from Claim 1; and Claims 10-12 depend from Claim 9. These claims are further believed allowable over the references of record for the same reasons set forth with respect to their parent claims since each sets forth additional structural elements and novel steps of Applicant's novel assembly and method for preparing mailpieces, respectively.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the application are in allowable form and that the application is now in condition for allowance. If, however, any outstanding issues remain, Applicant urges the Patent Office to telephone Applicant's attorney so that the same may be resolved and the application expedited to issue. Applicant requests the Patent Office to indicate all claims as allowable and to pass the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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